

Washington State Patrol Media Advisory

Chief John R. Batiste



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Traffic Stop Data Analysis of WSP to Be Unveiled and Discussed

What: Washington State University researchers have completed phase three of their “*Assessment of Racial and Ethnic Equity and Bias in Stops, Citations and Searches Using Multivariate Quantitative and Multi-method Qualitative Research Techniques*” for the Washington State Patrol. The researchers who have worked on this project for the past four years will present their findings and respond to questions. They have reviewed data on millions of traffic stops, as well as reviewed photo identifications of citizens stopped and/or searched to identify and confirm race. They have also done follow up surveys of thousands of citizens relating to their treatment during a traffic stop, and they conducted focus group sessions of citizens and WSP officers and supervisors across the state.

Who: Professor Nicholas P. Lovrich, Professor Clayton Mosher, and Michael J. Gaffney, all of the Division of Governmental Studies and Services, Washington State University; Washington State Patrol Chief John Batiste and Assistant Chief, Field Operations Bureau, Brian Ursino.

Where/When: Tuesday, June 28th:
10:30am in Spokane at the WSU Spokane Campus:
310 N. Riverpoint Blvd. Spokane WA
Tuesday, June 28th:
3:00 pm in Seattle at WSP District 2 Headquarters
2803 156th Ave SE, Bellevue, WA

Why: One of the major issues facing law enforcement today is the issue of racial profiling. The perception of racially discriminating policing within minority communities erodes trust and undermines law enforcement efforts. This independent, university-based analysis requested by the WSP is done to promote community outreach, dialogue and to use the findings to enhance professional standards within all of law enforcement.

Format: Following a brief presentation by the WSU team, the chief will make a few comments and respond to questions.

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